

**REMARKS**

Claims 14, 16, 18, 21, 23, 30 and 31 have been examined, and have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph and second paragraph.

As the November 5, 2004 Amendment and the current Amendment represent good faith attempts to overcome the rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first and second paragraphs, and as the Examiner has not set forth any prior art rejections, Applicant respectfully requests the amendments contained herein be entered and the claims be allowed. Alternatively, Applicant requests a new Office Action be issued which provides prior art rejections, if any, to which the Applicant can respond.

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENTS**

Also, the Examiner has not returned an initialed PTO 1449 form for the March 19, 2002 Information Disclosure Statement. Accordingly, we will provide a copy of the March 19, 2002 IDS with our formal response, and again request the Examiner to initial and return the PTO 1449 form.

**CLAIM OBJECTIONS**

The Examiner has objected to claims 22 and 24 under 37 C.F.R. § 1.75(c) as being of improper dependent form since such claims depend from claim 15 which was canceled in the November 5, 2004 Amendment. Accordingly, claims 22 and 24 have been cancelled.

The Examiner has objected to claims 16 and 18 due to minor informalities. Accordingly, claims 16 and 18 have been amended as shown above. Applicant submits these amendments overcome the Examiner's objections.

**REJECTIONS UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 112, FIRST PARAGRAPH**

The Examiner has again rejected claims 14, 16, 18, 21, 23, 30 and 31 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, as allegedly failing to comply with the written description requirement. In particular, the Examiner maintains that the phrases, “a gap is formed between the first conductive material layer and the second conductive material layer” (claim 14, lines 10-11) and, “such that the gap is filled with the piezoelectric material” (claim 14, lines 16-17), are not supported in the specification, and as such, are considered new matter. While Applicant respectfully disagrees with the Examiner’s rejection at least for the reasons set forth in the November 5, 2004 Amendment, Applicant has amended claim 14 to clarify the recitation. The “gap” is properly supported by the non-conductive region 33 in Fig. 3B (*i.e.*, the non-conductive region forms a gap), however, for clarity, the recitation has been amended. Applicant submits that support for this amendment can be found at least in the non-limiting embodiment on pg. 6, line 16 to pg. 7, line 1.

Further, Applicant has amended the claim term “such that the gap is filled with the piezoelectric material” to recite “such that the non-conductive region is *covered by* the piezoelectric material of the another green sheet” as shown above. The non-limiting embodiment of Figs. 3B and 3C clearly provide support that the non-conductive region 33 is *covered by* the piezoelectric material of the green sheet 32’, when the green sheet 32’ is laminated thereon.

Applicant also notes that, due to the amendment to claim 14, Applicant has amended claim 31 to provide appropriate antecedent basis for claim terms recited therein.

Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that the rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph have been overcome.

**REJECTIONS UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 112, SECOND PARAGRAPH**

The Examiner has again rejected claims 14, 16, 18, 21, 23, 30 and 31 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as allegedly being indefinite. Applicant respectfully submits that, with regard to the Examiner's rejection of lines 10-11 and 16-17 of claim 14, the amendments set forth above overcome the rejection.

The Examiner maintains that the recitation, "the obtained green sheet" of line 15 lacks antecedent basis. Further, the Examiner maintains that it is confusing as to whether the new green sheet will have a first and second region. Claim 14 now clearly recites that the "another" green sheet will have the first and second regions similar to the green sheet of step (a) (i.e., since the claim recites that step (a) is repeated to form the other green sheet).

The Examiner also maintains that the phrase, "repeating steps (b) and (c)" is confusing and unclear as to whether any subsequent green sheets that are formed, whether they will contain a first and second region, as well as a first and second conductive material layer. Applicant submits that, in view of its amendment to step (c), it is clear that the "another" green sheet will have the first and second regions. However, in order to clarify that first and second conductive material layers will be formed on the "another" green sheet, Applicant has further amended the claim as shown above. Such recitations clearly convey that the subsequently formed green sheets will have the first and second regions, as well as the first and second conductive material layers. Applicant submits that such amendments are supported in at least the non-limiting embodiments of Figs. 3A-4C.

Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that the rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph have been overcome.

**CONCLUSION**

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

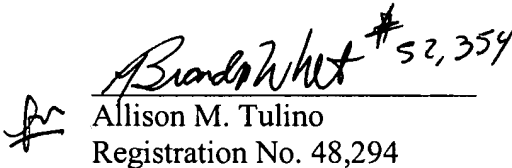
Respectfully submitted,

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